

DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA *OFFICE OF THE INSPECTOR GENERAL*

REPORT OF INSPECTION

D.C. DEPARTMENT OF PARKS AND RECREATION

Report No. 01-0002HA

September 2001

Charles C. Maddox, Esq. Inspector General

Inspections and Evaluations Division Mission Statement

The Inspections and Evaluations (I & E) Division of the Office of the Inspector General is dedicated to providing District of Columbia (D.C.) Government decision makers with objective, thorough, and timely evaluations and recommendations that will assist them in achieving efficiency, effectiveness and economy in operations and programs. I & E goals are to help ensure compliance with applicable laws, regulations, and policies; to identify accountability, recognize excellence and promote continuous improvement in the delivery of services to D.C. residents and others who have a vested interest in the success of the city.

GOVERNMENT OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA Office of the Inspector General

Inspector General



September 21, 2001

Mr. Neil Albert, Director Department of Parks and Recreation 3149 16th Street, N.W. Washington, D.C. 20001

Dear Mr. Albert:

Enclosed is our final *Report of Inspection of the Department of Parks and Recreation (DPR)*. Comments from DPR on the 49 findings and 84 recommendations by the inspection team are included in the report. Generally, all of their comments were responsive to our recommendations.

While the inspection report identifies management challenges in a variety of services and operations, we note with particular concern the deficiencies found in the areas of procurement, contracting, and property accountability. Failure to address these deficiencies will continue to create the potential for waste, fraud, and abuse at the agency.

Also enclosed are *Compliance Forms* on which to record and report to this Office any actions you have taken concerning each outstanding recommendation. These forms will assist you in tracking the completion of action(s) taken by your staff, and will assist this Office in its inspection follow-up activities. We track agency compliance with all agreed-upon recommendations made in our reports of inspection. We request that you and your administrators establish response dates on the forms and advise us of those dates so we can enter them on our copies of the *Compliance Forms*. We know that in some instances, things beyond your control, such as budget decisions, impact on trying to set specific deadlines. In those instances we request that you assign *target dates* based on whatever knowledge and experience you have about a particular issue. Please ensure that the *Compliance Forms* are returned to the OIG by the response date, and that reports of "Agency Action Taken" reflect actual completion, in whole or in part, of a recommended action rather than "planned" action.

We appreciate the cooperation shown by you and your employees during the inspection and we hope to continue in a cooperative relationship during the upcoming follow-up period.

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If you have questions or require assistance in the course of complying with our recommendations, please contact me or Alvin Wright, Jr., Assistant Inspector General for Inspections and Evaluations at (202) 727-5052.

Sincerely,

Charles C. Maddox, Esq./

Inspector General

CCM/aw/mlc

Enclosure

cc: See Distribution

Mr. Vincent B. Orange, Jr. September 21, 2001 Page 3

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ACRONYMS

ACA American Camping Association

BOCA Building Officials and Code Administrators International, Inc.

CELR Committee on Education, Libraries and Recreation

DCOP District of Columbia Office of Personnel

DCRA Department of Consumer and Regulatory Affairs

DHHS U.S. Department of Health and Human Services

DHS D.C. Department of Human Services

DPM District Personnel Manual

DPR Department of Parks and Recreation

DPW Department of Public Works

MOU Memorandum of Understanding

OCP Office of Contracts and Procurement

SOW Statement of Work

TANF Temporary Assistance to Needy Families